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THE TNA NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Founded and Incorporated Under Texas Laws - 1960
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Next month will close out 1975. We will have a great 1976 with so many ideas planned for TNA to celebrate the U.S. 200th birthday. Can we count on you?

5th REMEMBER - The of December is the deadline for the January issue.

COL. CHARLES A. WINGO

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the invitation of the Austin Coin Club, your governing board met in Austin on September 21, during their "Money Mart" show. Several things of general interest were discussed and acted upon.

Membership Chairman M. A. Currie told us that our organization has continued to grow since the convention in Dallas. That was good news, but the increase was very small and indicated that many have not yet secured that one member that we established as our goal. If you are one of these, won't you please try just a little harder to secure a new member before the end of the year?

That reminds me that now would be a very good time to send in your 1976 dues to our hard working secretary, Molly Gerald, to save her time and TNA postage in sending you a reminder. Please do this before you get too involved in Christmas and other year end activities. She'll appreciate it!

Convention Coordinator Tom Bain, and General Chairman of our 1976 American Bicentennial Convention at Amarillo, Lloyd Colvin, were present to tell us that things were progressing well for one of our most exciting conventions. Over 100 dealers will be there, outstanding speakers have been secured for our educational forum, Jess Peters will conduct our auction and the city's convention center is an outstanding facility for our convention. Those who attended the 1971 convention in Amarillo know that the host club will go all out to make their guests welcome, comfortable and entertained, so you'd better start planning now to be in Amarillo on April 23-25, 1976.

A special award was approved for the best exhibit with an American Bicentennial theme. It will be in addition to any other award won by the exhibit, so try to include this theme when planning your new convention exhibit. Three nice bicenten-

(Continued on page 14)

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

We hope you get together
In a warm, traditional way
With your dear ones gathered 'round
On this Thanksgiving Day.

FROM THE OFFICIAL TNA FAMILY

TO KEEP YOU POSTED—

A special meeting of the Texas Numismatic Association governing board was called for September 21 at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel in Austin. The meeting was held during the Austin club's Money Mart. Col. Charles A. Wingo, president, presided.

1. The minutes of the last TNA meeting and the treasurer's report were approved.

2. Marvin A. Currie Jr., second vice president, reported on the membership and asked support of each one in increasing the membership. Currie also held a workshop for TNA governors during the Money Mart.

3. Approved the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules committee report headed by C. C. Andrews.

4. Accepted the offer from Jess Peters to conduct the auction at the TNA conventions in Fort Worth, 1977, and Dallas, 1978. Peters also has the auction for 1976 in Amarillo.

5. Ideas were discussed for the TNA medal for the 1978 Dallas convention.

6. Approved the appointments of Sidney King of Beaumont as legal advisor and Brent Brown of Waco as youth chairman.

7. Awards approved:

a. Annual president's award to outstanding governor.

b. Award for special exhibit using the bicentennial theme at 1976 convention.

c. Award for the best article written especially for the TNA NEWS using the bicentennial theme. This is in addition to the annual Kalvert K. Tidwell Literary award. The bicentennial award will not be given until 1977 as articles written in 1976 will be judged for this particular honor.

8. Approved Life Memberships for R. J. Hansen, Amarillo, and Marvin A. Currie Jr., Baytown.

9. Voted to discontinue free tickets for the governors' and club representatives' breakfast meeting during conventions due to rising costs.

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CLUB DIRECTORY

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY!

In the Corpus Christi area, there is a coin club meeting every Tuesday night with Corpus Christi and Liberty Coin Clubs meeting alternate Tuesdays, Wilson Tower, Exxon Conference Room, 10th Floor.

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LATIN AMERICAN NUMISMATICS

BY: BRENT BROWN
Curator Of Numismatics, Strecker Museum, Baylor University
WACO, TEXAS

The Constitutional Commemoratives Of 1957

Brent Brown

Though not regarded as beautiful coins and often not in demand by some collectors, the constitutional commemoratives issued in 1957 are perhaps the most historically interesting coins struck in modern Mexico. These commemoratives consist of a one, five and ten peso silver coin plus two gold medals.

The centennial of the constitution of 1857 is a significant event worth national recognition. This constitution though no longer the supreme law of the land, was the first workable document in a series of failures aimed at national unity and peace. The concept of a constitution which guarantees human rights and serves to unite the people of Mexico has been, and is, a serious concern of Mexican citizens. Therefore, it is logical to honor the constitution which made great strides in unifying Mexico and remained in effect until the revolution which began in 1910.

The concepts found in the constitution of 1857 can be traced to the Spanish constitution of 1812 issued by republicans in Spain during the occupation by the forces of Napoleon. This constitution established the concept of representative government, congressional control of taxes, the military, and education, and guarantees of individual rights.

Two years later these concepts appeared in the Constitutoin of Apatzingan, proclaimed by the government established by the patriot Jose Maria Morelos y Pavon who was leading insurgent forces in southwest Mexico. The constitution of Morelos granted rights to the people including those of press and free speech, male suffrage, representative government, and it established a chief executive and a cabinet. This constitution collapsed with the disintegration of the insurgent army and the capture of Morelos. It declared Mexican independence and was designed as a short-term constitution.

The first constitution of independent Mexico was promulgated in 1824 following the brief reign of Emperor Augustin Iturbide. The major provisions of the constitution of 1824 provided for a federal republic; a legislative, executive, and judicial branch; and a congress elected by popular vote. Many provisions influenced by the United States constitution such as a federal district, presidential veto power, and two senators appointed from each state, appear in the constitution.

Following a 12-year struggle between the Centralist and Federalist parties in Mexico, the Centralists were able to win control of the government. The victorious Centralists wrote a new constitution. This 1836 constitution is known as the Constitucion de las Siete Leys or the Constitution of Seven Laws, since it is

divided into seven major parts.

The constitution established a bicameral legislature but restricted voting to those with an income of 100 pesos or more a year. A chief executive was selected by a complicated nominating process. The real power under this constitution was given to a five man "poder conservatorioi" or a conserving power. This elite group could nullify laws, suspend the congress, dispose of the president for any reason, and reverse judicial decisions. This radieal constitution was the law of the land until 1843 when the Organic Basic Constitution was written.

As a reaction to the "representative" governments established by previous constitutions, the new constitution created a dictatorship. The constitution of 1843 was written by a handpicked committee appointed by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna who had gained control of the nation in 1841. The president had tremendous powers. There was a congress but it was little more than a rubber stamp. State governors and many other officials were appointed by the president.

From 1843 to 1854 Mexico was a nation plagued by many problems. Centralists and Federalists battled for control of the federal government, Mestizos and pure-blooded Mexicans of Spanish descent struggled for power, and the power of the Catholic church was being challenged. During this period the tragic Mexican-American War was fought and the humiliating Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was forced on the proud people of Mexico. Following 1848 the constitution of 1824 was re-established and elections were held.

In 1854 a popular group, supported by the middle class arose to control the government of Mexico. This group consisted of Juan Alvarez, a minor revolutionary general who had been active in Western Mexico since 1815; Ignacio Comonfort, the popular governor of Morelia; and Benito Juarez, a full-blooded Zapotec Indian who had an outstanding record as governor of Oaxaca.

Alvarez, Comonfort, and Juarez announced the Plan of Ayutla in 1854. This plan called for the expulsion of Santa Anna who was again dictator of Mexico. A constitutional convention was to meet under the provisions of the plan and all illegally seized Indian land was to be returned.

Santa Anna was removed and a provisional government was established with Alvaraz as president. Later Comonfort assumed this position with Juarez as Minister of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs. By 1857 a new constitution, influenced by this group and by Miguel Lerdo de Tejada, was adopted. The constitution of 1857 was strongly anti-clerical. It included a bill of rights, provisions for an elected legislature, and for popularly elected judges.

This constitution remained in effect through the years Juarez was president, the Reform Wars, the French Intervention, and the long presidency of Porfirio Diaz. It is true that some presidents ignored or modified provisions of the constitution. The constitution of 1857 "died" with the revolution beginning in 1910. From 1910 to 1917 presidents ruled by decree and material law

On December 1, 1916, President Venustiano Carranza called a constitutional convention to meet in the city of Queretaro. The convention finished its work the following February and on February 5, 1917, Mexico adopted a new constitution. This constitution is very similar to that of 1857 but with some radical changes which were products of the revolution. These changes include articles on land reform, restriction of the Catholic church, restriction in for-

eign investment, and laws restricting the rights of aliens in the country. The constitution of 1917, though amended several times, is now the law of the land.

Benito Juarez is found on the obverse of the constitutional coins. His influence on the constitution of 1857 was very important and the influence of his ideas was also felt at the constitutional convention of 1917. Juarez was responsible for the provisions of church and state separation in Mexico and the restrictions of the power of the Catholic church. He also introduced the concept of true religious freedom and the establishment of non-sectarian public education in Mexico. Juarez also favored land distribution to Mexico's poor. Benito Juarez later became president during the critical period of the French intervention.

Thus by issuing three coins and two medals Mexico honored the constitution which had so much influence on her history and at the same time honored one of the greatest Mexican patriots.

The three commemorative coins are similar in design. The one peso coin features on the obverse the legend "CENTARIO DE LA CONSTITUTION DE MEXICO 1857-1957" (Centennial of the Constitution of Mexico), and the bust of Juarez. A Mexican eagle and the legend "ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS UN PESO 1957" is found on the reverse. The five and ten pesos coins are identical in design to the one peso except for the change of the value and the addition of the weight and fineness on the reverse of the coin.

Uncirculated one peso coins weigh 16 grams and have a diameter of 34.5 millimeters. The piece is .100 fine and a mintage of 500,000 coins is reported. Five peso coins weigh 18.05 grams and have a diameter of 36 millimeters. Fineness for this piece was increased to .720 and the mintage was reduced to 200,000 pieces. The 10 peso commemorative is .900 fine with a weight of 28.888 grams reported for circulated specimens. This coin is 40 millimeters wide and has a mintage of 100,000.

Two gold medals were also minted in connection with the centennial. One medal is the size of a regular issue 10 peso gold coin with an obverse identical to that of the silver commemorative coins, and a reverse similar to the Republican 4 reales struck from 1827-1870. The legend "REPUBLICA MEXICANA" is found on the reverse. The medal resembles a coin yet it has no indication of a monetary value on it.

A 37 millimeter wide gold medal was also issued. The obverse design features a woman holding a book. A map of Mexico with a sunburst and the legend "PRIMER CENTARIO DE LA CONSTITUCION DE 1875" complete the design. The interior of the chamber of deputies and the legend "CONGRESO CONSTITUYENTE 1856-1857" is featured on the reverse.

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TEXAS TOKEN TOPICS

Interesting - Unusual

BY: JAMES L. RUHLAND
Vidor, Texas

STORE CARDS OF SAN ANTONIO

Every state has one or two cities that have issued more tokens over the years than any of the other cities in the state. In Texas it is San Antonio. The San Antonio store cards, tokens and medals are to me the most interesting of any in Texas as a group.

This is the first of a three-part series. Part two will discuss San Antonio trade tokens and part three will deal with San Antonio medals. Any comments, additions, or corrections from the readers will be appreciated.

To begin with store cards differ from tokens only in that they don't have any value on them. In other words they are not generally considered to be redeemable, but instead were issued more as an advertising piece.

Listed here are some of the more interesting San Antonio store cards. Many of the collectors will refer to these pieces as tokens, but I have always divided them up based on the above paragraph.

1. **Obverse:** Alamo Iron Works (The word Alamo is not spelled out but instead it is pictured). **Reverse:** Farm Ranch / and / Mill / Machinery / San Antonio, / Texas. 31mm round aluminum. I have corresponded with the Alamo Iron Works about this card and they told me it was issued during the 30's when a large part of their business was in wind mills and ranch equipment.

2. **Obverse:** Alberts / Saloon (be-

tween the horns of an elks head mounted on a five point star. **Reverse:** Cradle of Texas Liberty / Alamo / (Alamo pictured) 32mm round white metal. This is a beautiful double pictorial with the elks head on the obverse and Alamo on the reverse. This card is Wright # 12.

3. **Obverse:** Blocks Pipe Shop / San Antonio, / Texas **Reverse:** Pipes / and / Tobaccos. 25mm round brass. This is a very simple advertising card, probably about 1920.

4. **Obverse:** Texas Long Horn Steer / Old Tex / (picture of a fantastic long horn steer) / At the Buckhorn. **Reverse:** The Alamo / (Alamo pictured) / built in / 1718 / San Antonio, Texas. 31mm round brass. There is some doubt whether this piece was issued by the Old Buckhorn Saloon as an advertising card or if it is a souvenir medal from the Hall of Horns at a San Antonio brewery. I personally believe it to be from the Old Buckhorn myself, because all the pieces that I have seen are worn indicating they were carried around and circulated.

5. **Obverse:** Diamond / Front Saloon / Ed Martine / Cor. Yturria / Commerce / St. **Reverse:** (Horses head pictured facing the right) 30mm round brass.

6. **Obverse:** Elite Hotel / Bar / (Battle of the Alamo pictured) / Fall of the / Alamo / 1836. **Reverse:** U. S. Post Office / (pictured) / San Antonio, / Texas. 31mm round aluminum. This one I consider the most fantastic of all San Antonio pieces. It is a double pictorial, and the art work on the obverse showing the battle of the Alamo is terrific. The hoards of Santa Anna's army can be seen storming the Alamo. The US Post Office, pictured on the reverse side, is also featured on quite a few early San Antonio pieces. Work was started on this building in 1886 and it was opened up in 1890. There is also a double pictorial from the Elite Saloon, but I would class it as a token because it is good for one drink.

7. **Obverse:** 1883 - Fiftieth Anniversary - 1933 / Ed. Friedrich / Good Luck. **Reverse:** 50 years Building Quality Refrigeration / (crest) / Ed Friedrich - San Antonio, Texas 32mm round brass. A fairly modern store card (1933), but a nice piece for any collection. There are two different types of this card.

8. **Obverse:** Henry's Saloon / The Alamo / (The Alamo pictured within a five pointed star) / Alamo Plaza and Crocket St. **Reverse:** Mission Conception / (pictured) / San Antonio, / Texas. 31mm round aluminum.

9. **Obverse:** Nentwigs / Bars **Reverse:** Post Office / (pictured) / San Antonio, Texas 32mm round white metal. Around the bottom edge of the card is the makers name "Heideman Mfg. Co. S.A. Tex." Heideman struck most of the early San Antonio tokens, but his name appears on very few.

OI Issues Catalog

Obol International has issued a new 1975 catalog of available books for a total of 47 covering a wide spectrum of collector interest and includes studies on ancient, medieval and modern coins. Several works on paper of South and Central America complete the range of appeal for nearly all collectors.

Among new books are **The Coinage of the Greeks** by William Stillman and **The Paper Money of Brasil**, 2nd edition, by Dale A. Seppa.

Write Obol International for more information at 8 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60603.

DEAR MOM - By Richard E. Bonilla Houston, Texas

Dear Mom,

The other night I came home right on the tail of a real norther. It was so cold that the only living things in the old neighborhood were some eastern tourists who got lost on their way to their winter grounds down in the Rio Grande Valley.

R. E. BONILLA

But, as I got home my dreams of a warm and cozy evening working on my collection were dashed. The lights were out and all the doors and windows were wide open. Yes, Mom, you guessed it. Herman, the Omniscient Guru, was back in town and had chosen my pad to hold a meeting of his groupies. And there they were, with the lights of their candles flickering dangerously close to my drapes, and with the sound of their revivals drowning the noise of the stereo.

It was questions and answers time and one of the faithful rose from the circle of kneeling figures to ask: "Oh, Guru, wise to the ways of the world. Name the perfect mint for us, your humble disciples." That kind of question interests me as I always wondered about the pecking order among such giants as the U.S. mint in Philadelphia, the U.S. mint in San Francisco, the Royal mint in London, the Canadian mint in Ottawa, and that new operation southwest of Philadelphia that goes by the name of The Franklin Mint. In due time Herman the all-knowing one, opened one eye and shared his wisdom with us: "The perfect mint, my children is the mint julep."

Murmurs of approval swelled from the congregation and when the heads stopped bobbing in agreement another faithful rose to ask: "Oh, Guru, master of all knowledge. Name the perfect coin." More silence while I reviewed in my mind a list that included the 1913 Hydeman Liberty nickel, the 1804 Idler dollar, the Gilroy Roberts Panama 20 Balboa. Finally, Herman's other eye popped open and in a quivering voice he mumbled: "The perfect coin, my children, is the one that buys the most bread."

More head bobbing and more murmuring and I arose for a word: "Herman," I whispered, "stop this nonsense or I'll tell these good people that you are nothing more than a roughneck from Odessa." "You do that," he answered without even opening his eyes, "and I'll tell Colonel Wingo that you have not paid your TNA dues yet." You cannot argue with such forceful logic, so I got into the spirit of the thing and asked: "Oh, Guru, keeper of the western wisdom. Name the perfect numismatic investment." I knelt down thinking of such possibilities as 1955 double die pennies, rolls of uncirculated silver, Franklin Mint Christmas ingots, type I Ike Bicentennial dollars. The answer came: "The perfect numismatic investment, my children, is the one that comes with an ANACS Certificate of Authenicity."

More head bobbing, more murmur-

(Continued on page 20)

(In coming months we will be publishing articles by the late Brad Mills of Dallas. These articles were prepared before his untimely death.)

VALUE OF ITEMS QUESTIONABLE

By The Late
BRAD MILLS

The widespread offering of fringe numismatic items in the form of medals, silver bars, tokens and novelties has been expanded considerably, due in part, to the limited number of new U.S. issues. Several foreign countries have entered the field by offering various special issues, some are suspect because they were minted for a definite sales purpose and not for general circulation in the country of issue.

The whims and requirements of many U.S. collectors, thus, have been satisfied by items perhaps frowned on by the puritanical numismatist.

We have received many calls from collectors who are unable to appraise the marginal offerings of medals, tokens, bars and novelty material. Some cost only a few dollars, while others are a continuing series of items running into hundreds of dollars.

There simply is no accurate answer to most of the questions asked by readers, since inflation, future demand for such items and a greatly enlarged collector interest may play tricks not now visible on the horizon. The novice may freely partake of the special fringe offerings, where the seasoned collector will hold to his fixed course with coins.

Various collectors of medals and bars attempt to use the older issues of such as a yardstick for values, future appreciation and desirability. Where a private company or "mint" has a good track record over the past few years, some decisions may be drawn.

However, there is no guarantee that any offering may be sold at a profit at a future time. Quality of design and prestige of the sponsor are extremely important.

Where a collector gets genuine pleasure from acquiring special medals, bars and the like, he should feel free to buy them.

However, it is never wise to sign up for a long series of continuing medals where such an action will involve a financial hardship.

Any discussion of the position of special medals and bars of regularly or specially minted coins, has long been a sensitive one. The sale of medals, etc., involves a legitimate merchandising effort, and it is merely a matter of choice and taste with the collector who acquires or shuns them as non-numismatic materials.

Apparently the private medal and bar makers have acquired mailing lists of large corporations, a fact that accounts for the solicitation by mail of thousands of non-collectors.

Novices who receive these offers to sell are obviously not qualified to pass on the merits of medals, bars and novelties as really worthwhile investments. Small investments should not be harmful - a medal or bar now and then - but expensive commitments without a thorough check may prove unwise.

Silver bars are closely related to bullion in value but sell at a considerable premium as a finished product with collector possibility. Medals usually command much higher premiums above bullion value.

It is impossible to predict the future demand for these fringe items or

true position as collector's items.

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"SLEEPERS" STILL ABOUND

In coin collecting parlance we have long heard of "sleepers" as coins or groups of coins that are underrated in some manner. This coin may be one with an added, hidden, numismatic twist, or another having a high potential as an investment item.

Thus the search goes on constantly among all ranks of collectors, speculators and hoarders for coins that may seem to have that little extra, neglected something.

The tip off to the suspected issues with unusual attraction may come from researchers, dealers or new collectors who frequently have keener perception than the seasoned numismatists who have been too close to the statistics to recognize the bright spots.

The discovery that many coins are scarce and even rare may come from the efforts of a collector who makes the rounds in a search for a particular specimen. Another and then another may follow in attempts to buy the same coin, only to find the desired item available or rare. A dozen or so of these combined acquisition attempts immediately form a pattern and point toward a "sleeper" in the making.

Many of the so-called sleepers are promotionally achieved by speculators who accumulate a large number before blowing the scarcity trumpets. But there is nothing new in this old ploy, which is much like stock market rumors based on a desire to move a certain designated stock upward. If the scarcity is genuine, prices and demand will reflect it. If the publicity has been poorly founded, demand and prices will fall.

Even now there are many sleepers in the various coin issues, but only the future will smoke them out. Some will be discovered by researchers while others will gradually come to light through absence of availability. The census or estimated inventory of available coins pops up now and then to give us rarities not previously accepted as such. The very recent issues do not appear as likely prospects for sleepers.

In the past the bright, uncirculated specimens of many denominations and types have turned up in short supply, although the mintage for certain years was high. During the 1920's, and particularly during the Great Depression of the early 1930's, there were only a handful of coin collectors thoughtful enough to put aside a few rolls of uncirculated coins of the yearly mintage. The result has been a scramble for the choice specimens of many types that should be in plentiful supply.

This broad circulation starts with the Morgan series of 1894 and continues until about 1940. A choice 1927-S Standing Liberty quarter will sell for around $800, while a badly worn specimen may be obtained for less than $5. A shortage of the very old U.S. coins is understandable but the sleepers minted after 1900 are the direct result of carelessness and lack of collector interest at the time of coinage. Yes, there are still many sleepers.

EXTRA MEDALS? SEND TO LUKE

If any member has on hand extra medals from 1969 or 1970, and wishes to dispose of them, please contact Howard Luke, TNA medals chairman, 823 N. Riverside Dr., Fort Worth, Tex. 76111.

Luke has requests for complete sets of the TNA medals but can not fill the orders without the first two years.

TEN QUESTIONS

Do you know the answers? Study the 10 questions, come up with the answers, let the editor know how you fared—and we'll print the answers in the December issue of the TNA NEWS, along with 10 more questions.

1. Who was appointed as the first director of the United States mint?

2. What was the first coin struck under the Constitution of the United States?

3. What was the first metal and how much was purchased by the U.S. for coinage purposes?

4. In 1873, the weight of some of the coinage was increased. What mark did the mint use to show this change in weight?

5. What was the first silver dollar size coin proposed for the U.S.?

6. During what years did the initial "L" appear on the ribbon of the Indian headdress on the Indian Head cent?

7. During what year did the Liberty nickel have a mint mark and what were the mint marks?

8. Why were the large mint marks placed on wartime nickels?

9. What coin is commonly referred to by its reverse rather than its obverse?

10. What coin is commonly referred to by the reason for which it was issued combined with the normal name?

ANSWERS —

1. The government requires 25 years before authorizing a design change in coinage. A special act of congress is necessary to make a change before the 25-year period.

2. Wampum was used as money by early settlers in New England and they were fashioned from shells.

3. The noticeable difference on the $2.50 gold pieces is the word "CAL."

4. The people of the U.S. objected to the 20c piece because of its resemblance in size and design to the quarter dollar.

5. There have been 5 series of the five cent piece: half dime, Shield nickel, Liberty Head or V nickel, Buffalo and Jefferson.

6. The nickname given paper money was "greenback."

7. The first small cent was issued officially for circulation in 1875.

8. The lettered edge on the U.S. half cent says "Two Hundred For a Dollar."

9. A fake 1804 cent can be detected easily as a rusty die was used for the obverse which resulted in the field being pitted. A die of about 1818 was used for the reverse, resulting in a different reverse than is found on a genuine 1804 cent.

10. President Roosevelt issued an order prohibiting banks from paying out gold coins and certificates without permission in 1933.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE —

(Continued from page 4)

nial exhibits were included at the Austin coin show with R. E. Greenwood winning the special award there.

Speaking of awards, it's time for you to consider nomination for the Lewis Reagan Memorial award. This award, in memory of the man who was ANA executive secretary for many years, is for the TNA member who has rendered the most outstanding service to help promote numismatics in Texas during 1975. Nominations may be made by any TNA member. Nominating letters, containing reasons why the nominee should receive the award, should be addressed to your TNA president, and be received not later than Jan. 15, 1976.

MIRIAM GILMORE

THE UNCOMFORTABLE CHAIR

N.L.G.

EDITOR

We can finally announce the interesting challenge we have written about several times.

The TNA governing board approved a special award to be given at the 1977 Fort Worth convention for the best article written especially for and appearing in the **TNA NEWS** during 1976 and using the bicentennial theme. So sharpen your pencil and your talent, get out the coin and history books and see what you can come up with.

REMEMBER - the article must appear during our bicentennial year - 1976 - and carry the bicentennial theme. Send all entries to the editor.

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It is not too early to be thinking of entering your club in the annual CLUB SALUTE award contest. Governors and club representatives - now is the time to really show TNA what can be done. The simple rules to follow are published elsewhere in **TNA NEWS.**

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We will again have a Mini News edition to hand out to visitors at the Amarillo convention on April 23, 24, 25, 1976.

If you wish to have your name added to the list of patrons, it will be $2.50 and all goes to help defray the cost of publication. We have sections for individuals, clubs and the good people of Levelland! Governors contact your clubs and members about the Mini News and also the Club Salute.

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Wanna play poker? Well, you can with the **Waco Coin Club.** Don't ask how long it has been going on but it was just now called to my attention. The Waco club meets at Texas Power & Light Co. and the **TNA NEWS** has been carrying it as Texas "Poker" & Light Co. Waco has notified us that they are adding a roulette wheel.

H. G. "Bill" Corbin of the Tyler, Tex. Stamp & Coin Co., received his 25-year ANA award. Bill joined ANA in 1950 and is =578 in TNA. Congratulations!

Tommy Tompkins writes from Amarillo that Eck Spahich writes a weekly column in the Borger newspaper and Lowell McKown keeps things interesting with his weekly column "Legal Tender" in the Amarillo Sunday News.

John N. Berger wrote from El Paso that there just might be another coin club organized in the El Paso area. John also said he attended the mid-year TNA meeting in Austin and wanted to commend the officers on the efficient and business like manner in which the meetings were conducted. Thanks, John, the board ap-

(Continued on page 20)

We Invite You To Share In Our Success Story By Consigning Your Collection For Future Auctions

★ SOME OF OUR PAST AUCTIONS:

❶ The Jose T. Medina Collection - The famous Chilean author and numismatist whose collection was recorded in 21 numismatic volumes.

❷ Our Tenth Anniversary Auction (1971) - Worldwide coins, medals, tokens, and paper money, including a number of Latin American rarities.

❸ The King Farouk of Egypt Collection of Banknotes accompanied by a second volume of choice and rare coins, medals, and tokens of the world

❹ The largest and most diversified numismatic sale on record was the 5001 Lots of selected coins, medals, and rare currency of the world including the Robert Gordon collection of European medals related to the Americas, which was at one time owned by Medina, but consigned to us by Robert Gordon

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❶ The three Mexico 3 Real pieces of Carlos and Johanna, which realized $15,600 in our King Farouk Sale - Part II.

❷ $1,950 was obtained for a silver medal featuring on the obverse George III and on the reverse two rampant lions. This medal commemorates the determination of England to continue the war with America to the bitter end. Nevertheless, independence came a year later. (Betts #584, Medina #161)

● In our 5001 - lot sale, $3,300 was obtained for a Costa Rica 8 Reales 1831 with assayer "E".

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Balance on hand as of August 31, 1975		$1,908.91
RECEIPTS:		
TNA Dues	335.00	
Sale of 1975 Convention Medals	94.00	
TNA News Ads	58.00	
Donation to Library	10.00	497.00
		$2,405.91

DISBURSEMENTS:		
Sean McClintock - medal refund	1.25	
TNA News Editor - Sept. travel allowance & Aug. petty cash	137.67	
Banner Printing Co.	442.07	
Aug. issue - 1249 copies	322.00	
Postage	93.94	
Engraving	9.55	
State Sales Tax	16.58	
C. C. Andrews - reimburse for Constitution and By-laws expenses	120.28	
Sean McClintock - medals refund	6.50	
Central Forwarding - case storage	25.00	
TNA Secretary - petty cash	47.20	
TNA Life membership savings account	130.00	909.97
Balance on hand as of September 30, 1975		$1,495.91
* Operating Funds		$215.78
* Encumbered Funds		$1,280.16

Note: The following funds cannot be used for anything except the purposes for which they are encumbered. The above balance includes these funds except as noted below:

TNA Library Fund as of August 31, 1975	$ 172.78
Donation as above	$ 10.00
Balance as of September 30, 1975	$ 182.78
Case Fund as of August 31, 1975	$1,122.38
Disbursement as above	$ 25.00
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TNA News Continuance Fund Certificate of Deposit	$2,247.43
TNA Life Membership Savings Account	$ 477.50

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The TNA MEMORIAL LIBRARY book shelf has an addition - thanks to William Lawrence (Larry) Hanks of El Paso.

Larry donated copy #1462 "**The Comprehensive Catalog and Encyclopedia of Modern Mexican Coins,**" 1976 edition. Larry is also the author.

In ordering this new book, please ask for H-19p.

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UNCOMFORTABLE CHAIR —

(Continued from page 11)

preciates that.

Among changes made by the State of Texas in the Limited Sales, Excise and use tax was: "The sale of coins or currency at a price that exceeds the face value is a sale of a taxable item. Effective September 1, 1975, the face value of American coin or currency may be deducted from the selling price before the tax is computed. The face value of other coin or currency may not be deducted." You Texas dealers are getting a break . . . . . .

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DEAR MOM —

(Continued from page 15)

ing. More questions, more answers.

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"**Your local coin club, my children.**"

"**Guru, the perfect collector.**"

"**The one who appreciates your accumulation.**"

"**Guru, the perfect collection.**"

"**Your first one, my child.**"

"**Guru, the perfect accessory to a collector.**"

"**An understanding and patient spouse with a sense of humor.**"

On and on into the night.

"**Guru, the perfect numismatic gift.**"

"**A Nikkon 40 power microscope.**"

"**Guru, the perfect way to clean a coin.**"

"**Don't.**"

"**Guru, the perfect way to win best in show.**"

"**Work.**"

Finally, a tired voice—my own—spoke into the darkness: "Guru, ruler of the intellect. Why is it that mankind isn't, that freeways aren't, that diehards don't and that silver dollars go elunk?"

"Oh, favorite son," the Guru answered in a tone that implied that he would like this to be the greatest unfinished sentence in the history of the South, "if you knew the answer to that question, you would be sitting here freezing to death instead of me."

And, with that, he and his groupies split.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 29-30

PASADENA COIN CLUB, 15th annual Gulf Coast Coin Show, Ramada Inn-Hobby, Houston. **BOURSE:** William R. Chase, Box 58573, Houston 77058.

✧

1976 SEASON

JANUARY 30-31 - FEB. 1

GREATER HOUSTON COIN CLUB, annual Money Show, Shamrock Hilton Hotel. **BOURSE:** Bill Johns, Box 2963, Houston 77001.

✧

JAN. 31-FEB. 1

INTERNATIONAL COIN CLUB, annual show.

✧

FEBRUARY 14-15

LEA COUNTY COIN CLUB, semi-annual coin show, VFW Hall, Hobbs, N. Mex.

✧

MARCH 6-7

CORPUS CHRISTI COIN CLUB, annual Collector's Show, Exposition Hall.

MARCH 7

LEVELLAND COIN CLUB, annual show, Women's Bldg., Fair Grounds. **CONTACT:** D. O. Joplin, 212 Cypress, Levelland 79336.

✧

APRIL 23-25

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, annual convention, Civic Center, Amarillo.

✧

MAY 2

WICHITA FALLS COIN & STAMP CLUB, annual show.

✧

SEPTEMBER 11-12

SAN ANGELO COIN CLUB, annual show, La Quinta Motor Hotel. **WRITE:** Club, Box 87, San Angelo 76901.

✧

SEPTEMBER 25-26

AUSTIN COIN CLUB, annual Money Mart, Stephen F. Austin Hotel. **WRITE:** Club, Box 1225, Austin 78767.

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TEXAS DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT I:

G. W. Somers
Governor

G. S. Davison lead a round table discussion on coins and currency at the September meeting of **Graham Coin & Stamp Club.** The meeting, with six present, was held at Texas Electric Reddy Room.

Several expressed the desire for $2.00 bills again and a set of bicentennial coins were on display. Mrs. W. L. Scott served refreshments during the social hour. —**Mrs. Wm. Rust, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT III:

Ellis Brooks
Governor

A special exhibit which included 14 cases of colonial currency, papers and bonds was shown by Val Pasvolsky of New Jersey at the annual coin show hosted by **San Angelo Coin Club.** The show was held in September at La Quinta Motor Inn with about 1200 visitors and 26 bourse dealers.

Show chairmen were Weldon Surber, general chairman; Bill Lee, exhibits; E. H. Brooks, bourse; J. G. Pfluger, security; and Wilson Korona, finance.

Pasvolsky was the speaker for the regular club meeting in September. He spoke on colonial life, coins and notes during the early days of our nation. Bill Lee conducted the auction. Special prizes were won by Pasvolsky and Doughty McDonald. **—Lucille Coleman, Sec. & E. H. Brooks.**

✧

DISTRICT IV:

Keith Johnson
Governor

Robert E. Greenwood was awarded a special exhibit honor for his bicentennial theme display at the annual Money Mart sponsored by **Austin Coin Club.** H. R. Peppard won best in show.

Other winners were: U.S. coins—Jim Martin, Nell Martin, Robert E. Greenwood; currency—H. R. Peppard, Col. Chas. A. Wingo, D. O. Joplin; foreign—Miriam Gilmore, Gerald Kendall, E. T. Morrison; medals—D. O. Joplin, David Joplin, Wm. E. Fowler.

Also, tokens—Frank Galindo, Wm. E. Fowler; miscellaneous—Carroll Andrews, Frank Galindo, Karla Galindo; junior, Andrea Peppard, Gober Pitzer, Karen Davidhizar.

George Hatie, past ANA vice president, was the guest speaker at the awards breakfast held at Stephen F. Austin Hotel. Hatie presented a slide program. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Hancock. He is the newly elected ANA president.

The 1976 Money Mart is set for

September 25-26. —**Lyman C. Bartee, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT V:

Barney K. Welch
Governor

Twenty seven members and guests of the **Dallas Coin Club** were on hand for a program presented by James R. Kleiner. His subject was medieval coinage of Western Europe, ANA slide set No. 20. Kleiner has studied and collected medieval coinage for many years.

Tom Bain reported on the ANA convention, indicating attendance was at a record level, as were dealer to dealer sales resulting in escalation of prices. Club President George F. Johnson won the attendance prize, a 1974 mint set.

The meeting was held in the English Room of the Baker Hotel. —**LCdr. C. C. Andrews, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT VI:

R. E (Dick) Bonilla
Governor

The program for the September meeting of **Galveston County Coin Club** of Texas City was "other hobbies." Included were: wooden money, Claude Ressler; proof sets from Virgin Islands and British Honduras Christine Richardson; coins found, Ruby Threlkeld; collecting coins and making Indian jewelry, Jack Kett; picture post cards, Marguerite Mitchell; political, union and club buttons, Charles Mitchell; Tennessee mountain rocks, Helen Dodderer; and metal toy furniture, Thomas Mayo.

Reports were given by Ruby Threlkeld on the Beaumont coin show which she and Mr. Threlkeld attended; Helen Dodderer on coin shows and flea markets she attended while on vacation in Tennessee; and Claude Ressler on postage increase. —**Ruby Threlkeld.**

✧

A gala dinner party marked the 20th anniversary for the **Greater Houston Coin Club** when members and guests gathered at the San Jacinto Inn on September 14. Special guests included ANA President Virgil Hancock, ANA Vice President Grover Criswell, and Arthur Fitz, guest speaker. Mrs. Chris Johns, club president, and Richard E. Bonilla, TNA

GHCC HONORED — Fred Hofheinz (seated), Mayor of the City of Houston, Texas signed a Proclamation honoring the Greater Houston Coin Club on its 20th anniversary in September. Witnessing the ceremony are (l to r) Richard E. Bonilla, governor of the Texas Numismatic Association, Colin Tuttle and Mrs. Chris Johns, vice-president and president respectively of the Greater Houston Coin Club.

District 6 governor, were in charge of arrangements.

On display was a proclamation issued by Fred Hofheinz, mayor of the city of Houston, commemorating the Houston club's event with "Greater Houston Coin Club Week—September 14-20."

At the regular monthly meeting held at Southwestern Savings, reports were made on the anniversary party and the ANA convention. Kyle Vick was the evening's speaker. He led a discussion on the investment of money as seen by a commodity broker.

Club members voted to lend financial assistance to new clubs being formed in the Houston area. The **Brazos Bend Coin Club** will receive $10.00 for mailing announcements of meetings. Announcement was made that the annual Money Show will be held January 30, 31 and February 1, 1976 at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel. William H. Johns, Box 2963, Houston 77001, is bourse chairman. —**Bob Sebel & R. E. Bonilla.**

✧

DISTRICT VII:

Ernest Price
Governor

September meetings for the **Alamo Coin Club** of San Antonio included an auction and programs.

The auction was held at the September 9 meeting. Jerry Gibbs spoke on large cents and Ted Carmack reported on the coin seminar held by ANA in Colorado Springs. —**Club Bulletin.**

✧

TNA District 7 Governor Ernie Price installed the new officers to serve the **Gateway Coin Club** of San Antonio. The club met in the Confederate Room of McCreless Shopping Mall.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Galindo advised that they had won three trophies at the **Austin Coin Club** Money Mart—first in tokens, second and third in miscellaneous.

Club membership has reached 32 since its re-organization. —**Fred England, Reporter.**

✧

DISTRICT VIII:

Wayne H. Harris
Governor

Lee Grossman presented a program on Chief Cuauhtemoc at a recent meeting of **Liberty Coin Club** of Corpus Christi. Cuauhtemoc was the last of the Mexican Aztec emperors. Ralph Waters conducted a short quiz on American coinage.

At a later meeting, a slide program was given by Clarence Davis. The slides, from the TNA MEMORIAL LIBRARY, were on U.S. type coins from 3 cents through 20 cents. Lee Grossman talked on Mexican heroes portrayed on coins. —**Club Bulletin.**

✧

David Burke gave a numismatic quiz at one of the September meetings of the **Corpus Christi Coin Club.** The quiz was on numismatic terminology. Marty Martin won with the highest score and donated his silver-dollar prize back to the club.

A film "The Ultimate Achievement" from the TNA MEMORIAL LIBRARY produced by the Franklin Mint was the feature for the next meeting. —**Club Bulletin.**

✧

The **Beeville Coin Club** hosted their annual coin show on September 21 at Bee County College student center

in Beeville.

Exhibits included 20th century English pennies by the **Corpus Christi Coin Club**; World War II military currency by the **Liberty Coin Club** of Corpus Christi; large Texas map containing 20th century type sets of all U.S. coins by the **Victoria Coin Club**; and bicentennial items from the U.S. mint by the Beeville club.

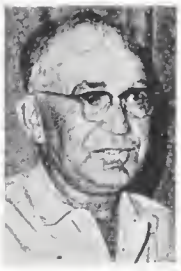
Souvenir wooden nickels were available at the show and may also be ordered for 50c for three including postage. The address for orders is **Beeville Coin Club,** Box 209, Beeville 78102.

Dealers were present from Corpus Christi, Houston, San Antonio, Victoria, Alpine, McAllen as well as local and nearby towns.

✧

DISTRICT IX:

The annual coin and hobby show given by members of the **Lamb County Coin Club** of Littlefield was set for November 2 at Lamb County Community Bldg.



D. O. Joplin
Governor

Larry Sanderson was general chairman assisted by Ernest Mills, bourse, and D. O. Joplin, exhibits.

The regular meeting in September, with 19 present, was held in the Reddy Room. Joplin reported on the semi-annual TNA board meeting held in Austin and Ernest Mills conducted the auction. **—D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

Carl Robinson was elected to serve as president of **South Plains Coin Club** of Lubbock at the September meeting held at First Federal Savings & Loan. Twenty four were in attendance

Serving with Robinson will be Carl Anderson, vice president, Jean Schwab, treasurer; and Larry McKinney, secretary.

Marvin Fraley reported on the ANA convention and D. O. Joplin reported on the **San Angelo Coin Club** show and the semi-annual TNA Board meeting.

A program on "show and tell" was given by the members and included Carl Robinson on bicentennial coinage; Marvin Fraley, Dutch coins; Ed Edward, Chinese shoe money; Bryan Easthane, 1851 U.S. 50 cents and a Shield nickel (one of the first coins owned by Easthane); and Jerry Easthane, 1936 Texas centennial medals. H. E. Cook conducted the auction. **—D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

March 7 was the date set for the annual coin show held by **Levelland Coin Club** when members met in September at the Chamber of Commerce building. Five were present.

The show will be held at the Women's Building with D. O. Joplin as general chairman and in charge of exhibits; and E. L. Pitzer, bourse. For more information write the club at 212 Cypress, Levelland 79336 A grand prize of a coin clock will be given during the show.

Pitzer was appointed to select the attendance prizes. **—D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

DISTRICT X:

Four meetings of the **International Coin Club** of El Paso were held in September with average attendance of 30 members and guests. The club meets every Thursday except holidays. Club President Mark Koenigsberg is auctioneer and coin sales and trades are permitted at all meetings

Plans are continuing for the January 31-February 1 coin show and it was announced that a new club was being organized in northeast El Paso **—John N. Berger, Gov. Dist. 10.**

DISTRICT XI:

R. L. Tompkins
Governor

Charles Arnold was to present the program at the October meeting of the **Amarillo Coin Club** on "2c, 3c and 20c pieces." Meetings are held at Security Federal Savings & Loan. An auction of coins donated by members was to take place and proceeds were to be used toward expenses of the TNA convention in 1976.

The annual club show was held September 13-14 and it was reported that two 1895 proof silver dollars were exhibited and were also for sale.

Exhibit winners were: Larry Warner, champion of shows; Dave Cervin, best in show; Daron McGee, first place; Harold Stoltenberg, second; and John and Lorrain Spradling, third. In the junior division, Alan Garrett placed first and Linda Runkle, second. **—R. L. Tommy Tompkins, Gov. Dist. 11.**

✧

The **Dalbart Coin Club** reported that eight members attended a recent meeting and that the club was still active.

✧

DISTRICT XIV:

L G Davenport Jr.
Governor

The **Port Isabel Coin Club** sponsored its 8th annual coin show on September 28 at the Sea Island Resort Hotel. D. L. Pruitt was general chairman.

Participating were the Port Isabel Jaycees with a display of commemorative medallions from last year's Queen Isabella causeway opening.

Miriam Gilmore gave the program at the October meeting of **Hidalgo Coin Club** held at Chisum's Rock & Hobby Shop in Pharr. Her topic was weights of silver and gold. Leon Maddox was to have the program at the November meeting.

✧

DISTRICT XV:

Jerry A. Williams
Governor

Coin altering was explained by A. T. Redditt at a recent meeting of **Greater Port Arthur Coin Club.** Redditt demonstrated as how coins could be altered.

It was announced that the November and December meetings fell on Thanksgiving and Christmas and members were urged to select an alternate meeting date.

Special prizes were won by Redditt, Tom Cobb, Alvin Gentil and David Worsham. **—Club Bulletin.**

✧

Special recognition and thanks were extended the coin show chairman for the hard work to make **Beaumont Coin Club's** annual event a success. Chairman were: Sidney King, general chairman; Carl Heartfield, bourse and security; Kenneth Connor, publicity; Alvin Beckman, registration; and Jess Bachelder, exhibits.

A 100-lot auction was planned for the October meeting. **—Club Bulletin.**

✧

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(Continued on page 32)

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BC DOLLAR RELEASED

The bicentennial dollar was to be released for circulation October 13. The quarter and half dollar with the years 1776-1976 have been out for several months.

The new dollar carries the portrait of President Eisenhower on the obverse and the Liberty Bell and moon on the reverse. It is made of cupronickel.

DISTRICT MEETINGS —

(Continued from page 29)

Club. Meetings are held at Federal Savings & Loan Assn. building, 400 Tenth, Alamogordo, N. Mex.

The annual coin show was scheduled for October 18-19 at Holiday Inn.

TELL ADVERTISERS YOU
SAW IT IN "TNA NEWS"

✧ ✧ ✧

CLUB SALUTE!

Texas Numismatic Association wishes to honor its chapter members so the Governing Board established an award to salute the three top clubs of Texas. The awards are made annually at the Governors' and Club Representatives' breakfast during TNA conventions. THE CLUB SALUTE AWARD will carry first, second and third honors. Clubs participating must be TNA members in good standing. The awards are donated by Fred Green, Kermit, Tex., publisher of "**Today's Coins.**"

Here's all you do to enter competition—submit a typewritten report of club activities during the calendar year of 1975 no later than February 1, 1976 to the TNA News Editor, Box 74, Weslaco, Texas 78596 and include the following:

1. Name of club and how many members.
2. When and where meetings are held.
3. Types of programs and any special programs held during the year.
4. Special guests at meetings.
5. Exhibiting at meetings and outside events.
6. Charitable activities and donations.
7. Coin show activities.
8. Special honors bestowed upon club or any member.
9. Describe how your meetings and shows are publicized.
10. List any ideas your club has adopted to increase interest.

Additional consideration will be given for:

1. What each club did to further and encourage numismatics.
2. Work done on a local level to increase club membership.
3. Local civic projects that enhanced the club locally and/or statewide.
4. Programs designated to continue and generate interest in the local coin club.
5. Particular actions employed to encourage junior membership locally and statewide.

GOOD LUCK!

INA ISSUES MEDALS

The International Numismatic Agency announces the release of a set of four bicentennial tribute medals packaged in a leatherette presentation chest. The medals are minted in bronze high relief in 1½" diameter.

The medals honor the Spirit of '76, the Liberty Bell, the Minuteman and the Declaration of Independence. The American eagle is portrayed on the common reverse.

For further information, write International Numismatic Agency, Dept. BCT, East River Savings Bank Building, 225 Lafayette St., NYC, NY 10012.

Two New Stamps For Australia

Two 10-cent commemorative stamps have been issued to mark the division of the Australian Post Office into two separate bodies—the Postal Commission and the Tele-communications Commission.

The stamp design shows the symbol, typestyle, house colors and trading names of the new commissions.

FABULOUS HOUSTON!
15th Annual
Gulf Coast Coin Show
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Pasadena Coin Club
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Come make this Houston's most successful show. Our new location:
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1975 MEDAL

The seventh medal to be issued by the Texas Numismatic Assaciatian features the Jahn Neely Bryan Cabin which served as the first, and anly, past affice in Dallas under the Republic of Texas 1843-1846. It also served as the first caurthouse of Dallas Cauntу. The reverse carries the TNA emblem. Medal arders may be placed with Haward Luke, 823 N. Riverside Dr., Fart Worth, Tex. 76111. Single bronze medals are $1.25 each. If previaus issues (1969-1974) are desired include $1.25 for each ane ordered plus 25c postage.

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TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
18th CONVENTION
APRIL 23, 24, 25 – 1976

Civic Center **Amarillo, Texas**

Host – Amarillo Coin Club

Lloyd Colvin, General Choirmon

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806/355-5053 or 352-7676

This official publication is mailed to all TNA members except Associate without cost other than their annual dues. Members are invited to use its pages to express their views and to ask for information. Opinions expressed by contributors are those of the authors and are not necessarily the views of the Texas Numismatic Association or the Editor.

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GOLD

WE ARE BUYING!

SILVER

All Latin American Coinage Rarities, Common Coinage 8, 4, 2 & 1 Escudos Pesos Thru All Denominations Any Amounts - We Will Buy Bars And Bullion When Legal Jan. 1-We Will Buy Ancients, European, Oriental, etc. Gold.

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WE WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR - Mr. Chuck Haig who is manager of Colonial Coins' Foreign Department, is planning a world wide buying campaign. He will travel Mexico, Central America, South America, Etc. This Spring we will travel to the Far East - Japan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Philippines, etc. We will make frequent trips to Europe - Spain, etc.

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PLEASE

cantact me if you have any af the above items for sale. I am willing, if necessary, to buy whole collections to obtain the pieces I need.

HARRY W. BASS, JR.

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